

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 6, 2006 (BOS Mtg. 9/19/06)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator 

SUBJECT: Parking Restrictions – Glen Laurel Way

Section 46.2-1220 of the Code of Virginia provides authority for any county to regulate the parking, standing or stopping of vehicles within its limits. Knowing of this authority, the Glen Laurel Homeowners Association has requested that the Board adopt an ordinance to prohibit parking on Glen Laurel Way between the hours of 7:00 am and 3:00 pm on weekdays.

Considerations

1. Sections 15-48(a) and (b) of the York County Code set out parking restrictions for several streets in Yorktown and the entrance roads to Back Creek and New Quarter Parks. If approved by the Board, the restrictions for Glen Laurel Way would need to be added to this section of the County Code. Violations of this chapter are punishable by a fine of not more than \$200 pursuant to Section 15-2 of the County Code. Excerpts of both sections are attached.
2. As noted in the attached letter from Mr. Malcolm Mann, President of the Glen Laurel Homeowners Association, the request for establishment of No Parking restrictions is based on concerns about parking by students attending the adjacent Grafton High School. The Homeowners Association has the authority to regulate and restrict parking on the private courts and drives that have access to Glen Laurel Way (including towing offending vehicles), but not on Glen Laurel Way itself since it is a public street in the Secondary System. The requested restriction would prohibit all on-street parking (whether by students or residents) along Glen Laurel Way on weekdays between the hours of 7:00 am and 3:00 pm.
3. Grafton High School requires all students parking on the school grounds to have a parking pass. According to the school principal, there is no school division policy that prohibits students from lawfully parking in close proximity (within a designated “walking zone”) to the school and then walking to the school grounds. Both Glen Laurel and Grafton Woods are in the “walking zone” for Grafton High School. School officials recognize that students quickly learn of nearby parking locations that are not restricted and where they will not be subject to towing. The school is currently making announcements warning students that they can be subject to trespassing charges if they park off-site and walk across private property to reach the school grounds.

4. Glen Laurel borders Grafton High on the south side and Grafton Woods borders it to the north. Both townhouse communities have a central “spine” road that is publicly dedicated (Glen Laurel Way and Falling Spring Run, respectively). Private drives and parking courts intersect with those streets. When the Glen Laurel request was received, staff contacted the Grafton Woods Homeowners Association to see if that community is experiencing similar problems and, if so, whether it would be interested in similar restrictions – thinking that a restriction in one might simply transfer the problem to the other (or exacerbate an existing problem). After considering the matter, the Grafton Woods HOA declined to be added to the proposal for various reasons – the major reason being that many of the community’s residents park their vehicles on Falling Spring Run and could be inconvenienced by a parking restriction.

Recommendation

Since the request by Glen Laurel has been submitted by the HOA and is indicated to be supported by the results of a community survey, I am inclined to recommend its approval. The restriction will supplement the restrictions that the HOA has imposed on the private drives and parking courts within the community and should help to alleviate the problems that residents have encountered. While it may cause some residents to have to adjust their weekday parking practices, the overall interests of the community would appear to be served by establishing the restriction. Therefore, I recommend that the Board approve the parking restrictions as requested. This can be accomplished by the adoption of proposed Ordinance No. 06-25.

Carter/3337:jmc

Attachments:

- Excerpts, Sections 15-2 and 15-48, York County Code
- Vicinity Map
- Letter from Homeowners Association
- Proposed Ordinance No. 06-25

Copy to: Mr. Jim Brewer, Williamsburg Residency Administrator (VDOT)